

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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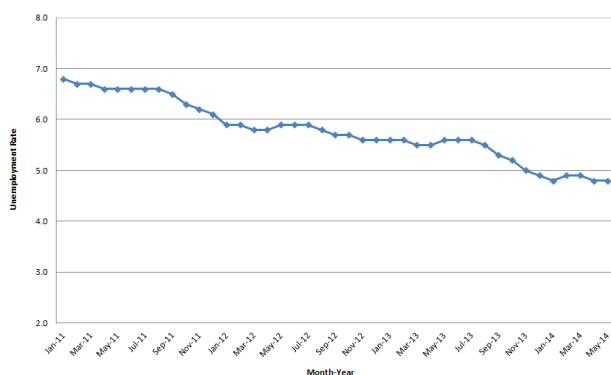
## Labor Market Report May 2014

**TOPEKA, Kan.** – The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) reported the May seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent, unchanged from April and down from 5.6 percent in May 2013.

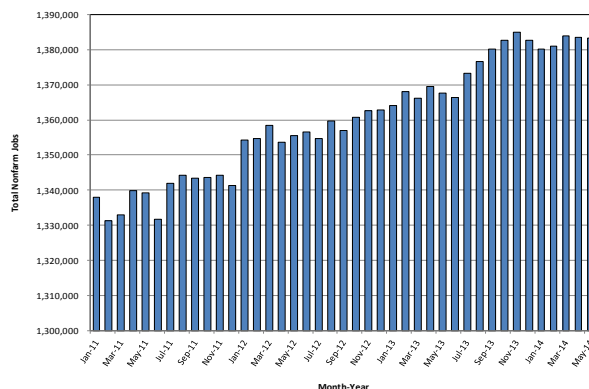
May 2014 seasonally adjusted data shows the highest number of employed people in the State's history. The labor force grew by 5,857 people, over the month. Of those, 5,459 became employed, and 398 entered the labor force as unemployed.

Kansas gained 14,800 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, an increase of 1.3 percent since last year, and 15,700 nonfarm jobs, a 1.1 percent increase. Since last month, Kansas gained 1,300 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, a 0.1 percent increase. The state lost 100 nonfarm jobs, with no significant percent change.

**Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted)  
Kansas  
January 2011 to May 2014**



**Nonfarm Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)  
Kansas  
January 2011 to May 2014**



“For the second straight month, the State has set a new record high for the number of people working. This, along with other growth indicators, signifies employers’ increasing demand for labor and Kansans’ confidence in the economy,” said Justin McFarland, Director, Labor Market Information Services.

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 12,400 private sector and 11,900 nonfarm jobs since May 2013, an increase of 1.1 and 0.9 percent respectively. Since last month, Kansas gained 6,100 private sector jobs, a 0.5 percent increase, and 5,800 nonfarm jobs, a 0.4 percent improvement.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.7 percent, up from 4.4 percent in April and down from 5.5 percent in May 2013.

“The labor force participation rate has rebounded quite well in 2014,” said Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist. “At the end of 2013, 67.5 percent of the civilian population (age 16 and over) participated in the labor force. In May, that number had increased to 68.3 percent. This is over 20,000 additional people working or looking for work in the State.”

There were 12,518 initial claims for unemployment benefits in May 2014, up from 10,186 initial claims in April 2014 and down from 15,348 last year. There were 76,255 continued claims in May 2014, down from 77,722 the previous month and down from 106,775 in May 2013. These numbers include all available programs.

Kansas labor market information for May is available [here](#).

Information on procedures for producing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#) and procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: The June Labor Report will be released on Thursday, July 17.

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*Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quotes by Justin McFarland, Director, Labor Market Information Services and Tyler Tenbrink, Senior Labor Economist, are available online courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.*

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